the Kuthiran Road as a protection to vehicular traffic along that road?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The work of raising the side walls wherever necessary will be attended to soon.

BACK-WATER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN COCHIN AND TRICHUR—IMPROVEMENTS TO

120. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Commerce and Industry):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether any steps have been taken to improve the back-water communication between Cochin and Trichur;

(*b*) if the reply is in the affirmative, what all improvements have been effected;

(*c*) if the reply is in the negative, whether the Government intend to improve this canal so as to make it navigable for boats throughout the year?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) It has not been possible to take up the improvement of the navigation channels in the *kole* fields leading to Trichur as improvements to them are only possible after an external source of water for irrigation of the *kole* fields is secured. The question is being investigated.

IRRIGATION FACILITIES—LANDS ADJACENT TO TRAVANCORE STATE—ARRANGEMENT FOR TAKING WATER FROM TRAVANCORE IRRIGATION WORKS

121. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have received a petition on 16th Thulam 1115 from the people of Meloor Village, requesting the Irrigation Department to give necessary facilities for taking water to the paddy fields lying adjacent to the Travancore State from the *thode* constructed in Travancore from "എഴാറാമുഖം പാണമുഴ";

(*b*) have the Government started any negotiations with the Travancore Government in this matter;

(*c*) is it not a fact that over 1,000 acres of paddy fields will be benefitted by this arrangement;

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(*d*) will the Government give a synopsis of the contents of the petition referred to in (*a*)?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) A copy of the petition is appended *(Appendix I.)*

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* May I know, Sir, whether proper investigations are being made after the receipt of this petition?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes. The petition is now with the Diwan Peishkar.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Will the Government be pleased to give information to the petitioners when conducting enquiries, so that they will also help you?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes. Every effort will be made to get their co-operation.

NEMMARA HOSPITAL—ACCOMMODATION IN

122. Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Will the Government be pleased to state the number of beds provided in the Nemmara Hospital—in the female ward and the general ward respectively?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Number of beds in the female ward, 10. Number of beds in the general ward, 18.

CHITTUR HOSPITAL—DOCTORS—QUALIFICATION, ETC.

123. Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of doctors in the Chittur Hospital;

(*b*) how many paid and how many honorary;

(*c*) the qualifications of each of the doctors;

(*d*) how is the work distributed as among the several doctors?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) Four.

(*b*) Two paid and two honorary.

(*c*) R. D. Pai, Assistant Surgeon—M. B. B. S.

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